Message Text

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O 250216Z FEB 78 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE AMCONSUL DURBAN PRIORITY AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, SF (HEUNIS, CHRIS)

SUBJECT: VISIT OF SOUTH AFRICAN MINISTER OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS TO U.S.

1. SOUTH AFRICAN EMBASSY TOLD COMMERCE DEPARTMENT FEB 24 THAT MINISTER OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS HEUNIS WILL BE VISITING NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON IN EARLY MARCH. EMBASSY SAID THAT HEUNIS, WHO HAS NOT VISITED WASHINGTON BEFORE, MAY WANT MEET SOME OF HIS COUNTERPARTS HERE. THE EMBASSY HAS REQUESTED AN APPOINTMENT WITH SECRETARY KREPS FOR HEUNIS ON MARCH 7 FOR A GENERAL EXCHANGE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF VIEWS. WORKING LEVEL OFFICERS AT COMMERCE HAVE REQUESTED DEPARTMENT'S OPINION ON PROPOSED VISIT, BUT HAVEN'T DECIDED WHETHER THEY WILL RECOMMEND THAT KREPS SEE HEUNIS.

2. DOES EMBASSY HAVE ANY INFORMATION ABOUT HEUNIS VISIT AND PURPOSE OF CALL ON SECRETARY KREPS? DEPART-

MENT IS INCLINED TO RECOMMEND THAT SECRETARY KREPS MEET WITH HEUNIS, BUT WOULD APPRECIATE ANY VIEWS AMBASSADOR BOWDLER MAY HAVE ON SUBJECT. VANCE

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